GENE TAYLOR

4TH DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

http://www.house.gov/genetaylor

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-2404

September 8, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing in regards to an application for radio spectrum for the city of Pass Christian, Mississippi that the Federal Communications Commission recently voted against.

The vote to deny this application by the FCC will most likely result in this frequency leaving the Gulf Coast. The potential loss of the 570 AM frequency for Pass Christian, Mississippi would mean that dedicated spectrum for the Gulf Coast would be auctioned off to another company and be located outside of Pass Christian, MS. This spectrum will be utilized elsewhere, preventing Gulf Coast listeners from having the benefits of a new radio service.

My office contacted the FCC on May 28, 2010 prior to the Commissioners voting on the application for the 570 AM frequency. I was informed that this application had been circulated, however, according to the FCC Congressional Liaison office this vote would not be taking place in the near future. I was also told that my office would receive a phone call from the Chairman's office to discuss this application. A follow up phone call was placed to the Chairman's office, however neither myself nor anyone on my staff was contacted by the Chairman's office and on June 4, 2010, one week after our initial inquiry into this frequency, the FCC Commissioners voted to deny this application leaving very little possibility that this frequency would remain on the Gulf Coast.

According to Mr. Garey, he filed an appeal after he was penalized for withdrawing from the auction. The FCC never ruled or considered this appeal before applying a federal debtor's staff against Mr. Garey for two and a half years. A federal debtor's status applied to any individual obviously affects a person's ability to conduct business and according to Mr. Garey this has impeded his ability to file the FCC 301 Long Form for the Pass Christian radio station.

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I realize that the FCC has to manage a significant amount of spectrum and frequency applications and that there are rules in place to ensure that this process is handled fairly and consistently under the guidelines established by the FCC. However, in order to ensure that the Gulf Coast does not unfairly lose this spectrum, I am writing to request a meeting on behalf of the applicant, Dave Garey, to discuss this issue.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Since ely,

GENE TAYLOR
Member of Congress

GT: emr



Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C.

November 16, 2010

The Honorable Gene Taylor U.S. House of Representatives 2269 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Taylor:

Thank you for you letter regarding the application for radio spectrum in Pass Christian, MS. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the Media Bureau's Office of Communications and Industry Information to look into this matter. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski



Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

November 16, 2010

IN REPLY REFER TO: CN-1001474

The Honorable Gene Taylor
U.S. House of Representatives
2269 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Taylor:

On behalf of Chairman Genachowski, I appreciate this opportunity to update you regarding the status of a proposal to construct an AM radio station in Pass Christian, Mississippi that was submitted to the Commission by Mr. Dave Garey, sole proprietor of Fireside Media. The Commission has worked to afford Mr. Garey every opportunity consistent with the Commission's rules to become the licensee for an AM radio station in Pass Christian.

Staff of the Commission's Media Bureau has discussed the Commission's auction and allocation procedures and rules with your staff and also provided information regarding the Fireside application. Commission personnel continue to be available to discuss this matter with you or your staff, and Mr. Bill Lake, Chief of the Media Bureau, along with Mr. Peter Doyle, Chief of the Audio Division, also are available to speak or meet with Mr. Garey regarding the Pass Christian application.

Fireside has filed a Petition requesting that the Commission reconsider its June 4, 2010 Memorandum Opinion and Order concerning the Pass Christian application. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the Fireside Petition before making a recommendation to the Commission.

I hope that this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Perko

Chief, Office of Communications and Industry Information Media Bureau